

REMARKS

The Official Action mailed March 29, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully noted. This response is filed within three months of the mailing date of the Official Action and therefore is believed to be timely without extension of time. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that this response is being timely filed.

The Applicant notes with appreciation the consideration of the Information Disclosure Statements filed on October 20, 2003; and February 7, 2007.

Claims 1-3 and 5-30 were pending in the present application prior to the above amendment. (Although the Office Action Summary shows that claim 4 is withdrawn, the Applicant notes that claim 4 was canceled without prejudice or disclaimer in the *Amendment* filed on February 7, 2007.) Claims 1-3, 7 and 9 have been amended to better clarify the features of the present invention, and new dependent claims 31-34 have been added to recite additional protection to which the Applicant is entitled. Accordingly, claims 1-3 and 5-34 are now pending in the present application, of which claims 1-3, 7 and 9 are independent. For the reasons set forth in detail below, all claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 1, 2, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14-17, 19-22, 24, 27 and 30 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0011586 to Nakajima and U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0052447 to Ishiyama. The Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained against the independent claims of the present application, as amended.

As stated in MPEP §§ 2142-2143.01, to establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim

limitations. Obviousness can only be established by combining or modifying the teachings of the prior art to produce the claimed invention where there is some teaching, suggestion, or motivation to do so found either explicitly or implicitly in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art. "The test for an implicit showing is what the combined teachings, knowledge of one of ordinary skill in the art, and the nature of the problem to be solved as a whole would have suggested to those of ordinary skill in the art." In re Kotzab, 217 F.3d 1365, 1370, 55 USPQ2d 1313, 1317 (Fed. Cir. 2000). See also In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (Fed. Cir. 1988); In re Jones, 958 F.2d 347, 21 USPQ2d 1941 (Fed. Cir. 1992).

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest all the features of the independent, as amended. Independent claims 1, 2, 7 and 9 have been amended to recite a capacitor electrically connected to a switching element, and that a switching regulator control circuit is electrically connected to the capacitor for receiving the voltage charged in the capacitor, which is supported in the present specification, for example, by page 6, line 1, to page 7, line 7, and Figure 3. Also, claims 1, 7 and 9 have been amended to remove features which are not believed to be critical to the patentability of the claims. Specifically, the feature regarding a FPC has been removed and added as new dependent claims 31, 33 and 34, respectively. For the reasons provided below, Nakajima and Ishiyama, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-referenced features of the present invention.

The Official Action asserts that the power saving mode control supply circuit 26 of Nakajima corresponds with the switching regulator control circuit of the present invention (page 3, Paper No. 20070326). However, Nakajima appears to teach that "[as] shown in FIG. 16, the power saving mode control supply circuit 26 effects power saving mode control on the power supply circuit 25 on the basis of external information specifying the mode" (paragraph [0099]). Nakajima does not teach or suggest that the

power saving mode control supply circuit 26 (switching regulator control circuit) is electrically connected to a capacitor for receiving the voltage charged in the capacitor.

Ishiyama does not cure the deficiencies in Nakajima. Figure 13 of Ishiyama may disclose, for example, flying capacitors FC1-4 in a voltage conversion circuit 40. However, Nakajima and Ishiyama, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest that the power saving mode control supply circuit 26 (switching regulator control circuit) of Nakajima could or should be electrically connected to a capacitor for receiving the voltage charged in the capacitor.

Since Nakajima and Ishiyama do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.

The Official Action rejects claims 3, 6, 18, 23 and 28 as obvious based on the combination of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0175662 to Sakurai, Nakajima and Ishiyama. The Applicant respectfully submits that a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained against the independent claims of the present application, as amended.

The prior art, either alone or in combination, does not teach or suggest all the features of the independent claims, as amended. Independent claim 3 has been amended to recite a smoothing capacitor electrically connected to a switching element, and that a voltage feed back circuit is electrically connected to the smoothing capacitor for receiving a voltage charged in the smoothing capacitor, which is supported in the present specification, for example, by page 6, line 1, to page 7, line 7, and Figure 3. Also, claim 3 has been amended to remove features which are not believed to be critical to the patentability of the claims. Specifically, the feature regarding a FPC has been removed and added as new dependent claim 32. For the reasons provided below, Sakurai, Nakajima and Ishiyama, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the above-referenced features of the present invention.

Sakurai does not cure the deficiencies in Nakajima and Ishiyama. The Official Action asserts that the capacitor C2 of Sakurai corresponds with the smoothing capacitor of the present invention, and that the drive power supply generating circuit (paragraphs [0034]-[0035]) of Sakurai corresponds with the voltage feed back circuit of the present invention (page 8, Paper No. 20070326). However, Sakurai appears to merely disclose that "[the] drive power supply voltage generating circuit 20 thus receives feedback based upon the drive power supply voltage generating circuit 20, so that feedback control for maintaining a constant relation between the drive power supply voltage and the reference voltage is realized" (Figure 1 or 3; paragraph [0064]). Therefore, Sakurai, either alone or in combination with Nakajima and Ishiyama, does not teach or suggest a smoothing capacitor electrically connected to a switching element, and that a voltage feed back circuit is electrically connected to the smoothing capacitor for receiving a voltage charged in the smoothing capacitor.

Since Sakurai, Nakajima and Ishiyama do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.

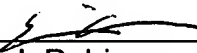
The Official Action rejects dependent claims 5, 8, 10 and 13 as obvious based on the combination of Nakajima and Ishiyama, either alone or in combination with one or more of the following: Sakurai, U.S. Patent Application Publication Nos. 2001/0007432 to Ayres, 2002/0044145 to Tomio, 2003/0201967 to Yu and 2002/0145041 to Muthu.

Please incorporate the arguments above with respect to the deficiencies in Sakurai, Nakajima and Ishiyama. Ayres, Tomio, Yu or Muthu does not cure the deficiencies in Sakurai, Nakajima and Ishiyama. The Official Action relies on Ayres, Tomio, Yu or Muthu to allegedly teach the features of the dependent claims. Specifically, the Official Action relies on Ayres to allegedly teach packing a diode and a smoothing capacitor on a substrate (page 12, Paper No. 20070326), on Tomio to allegedly teach a pixel portion comprised of a first thin film transistor over a substrate

and a second thin film transistor over a substrate (page 13, Id.), on Yu to allegedly teach a switching regulator control circuit comprising various circuits (page 14, Id.), and on Muthu to allegedly teach a plurality of switching regulator control circuits (page 15, Id.). However, Nakajima, Ishiyama and one or more of Sakurai, Ayres, Tomio, Yu and Muthu, either alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the following features or that Sakurai, Nakajima and Ishiyama should be modified to include any of the following features: a capacitor electrically connected to a switching element, and that a voltage feed back circuit is electrically connected to the capacitor for receiving a voltage charged in the capacitor. Since the prior art references do not teach or suggest all the claim limitations, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be maintained. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are in order and respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


Eric J. Robinson
Reg. No. 38,285

Robinson Intellectual Property Law Office, P.C.
PMB 955
21010 Southbank Street
Potomac Falls, Virginia 20165
(571) 434-6789